May 13, 2010

Competition Summary and Rankings
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative EPA-R5-GL2010-1
Beach Sanitary Surveys Program

A. Summary of the Competition:

EPA's $120 million Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Request for Proposals (RFP) was announced on November 23, 2009 and included funding for 35 programs—for approximately 400 projects through approximately 300 awards. The RFP was widely distributed via direct e-mails to hundreds of organizations, posting on EPA websites and grants.gov, and links to websites in Headquarters and Regional offices. The RFP was discussed with about 1,200 participants during webinars on December 9 and December 16, 2009. By the due date of January 29, 2010, applicants had submitted approximately 1,050 proposals requesting over $942 million. The selection officials under the RFP preliminarily selected 209 projects totaling $119 million. Subsequent to these preliminary selections (approximately a month), but prior to announcing them, approximately an additional $43 million in funding was provided to make additional selections for meritorious projects submitted under the RFP. This additional funding will be used, consistent with the intent of the additional awards clause in Section II of the RFP, to make selections for about 60 additional proposals resulting in a total of about 270 proposals totaling approximately $162 million which are recommended for award and will be invited to submit full application packages.

B. Process and Criteria for Beach Sanitary Surveys Program

The RFP includes this information pertaining to the program area of the RFP requesting proposals for Beach Sanitary Surveys:

> EPA expects to provide approximately $12 million for approximately 25 to 50 projects ranging in amounts from $20,000 to $250,000, to identify sources of contamination at Great Lakes beaches and implement actions to reduce or remove the contamination. Under this program, EPA is requesting proposals for the identification of sources of pollution at Great Lakes beaches, and to begin actions to reduce or eliminate the contamination. EPA especially encourages projects to be performed in the 30 US/Binational Areas of Concern such that any project will assist in delisting Beach Closing/Recreational Contact Beneficial Use Impairments. Projects should be designed to reduce risk to human health at swimming beaches by identifying sources of pollution at beaches and taking measures to reduce or eliminate the contamination to reduce the number of pathogen indicator organisms to levels below established criteria.

The category received 50 proposals requesting $11,391,282 in funding. The review panel for this category of proposals consisted of 17 reviewers from GLNPO, EPA Office of Research and Development, EPA Office of Water, and EPA Regions 2 and 5. The 50 proposals were first evaluated by the panel lead against the threshold eligibility criteria in Section III of the RFP. All proposals were deemed eligible. Each proposal was assigned three or more reviewers who received access to their proposals via the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative proposal Review System database, a secure, password protected website. Each reviewer also received the RFP and instructions. Each reviewer signed a conflict of interest statement with each proposal they reviewed. Each panelist was found to be impartial and could perform an independent assessment of the qualifications of the organizations that submitted proposals. The panelists independently evaluated the assigned proposals. The review criteria for this program area are

listed in Attachment 1. GLNPO, in conjunction with the Grants Competition Advocate from the Office of Grants and Debarment (OGD), the Office of General Counsel (OGC), and the Office of Regional Counsel (ORC), conducted training webinars for reviewers on Monday, January 25 and Wednesday, January 27. During these sessions, GLNPO, OGC, ORC, and OGD discussed the review panel responsibilities and answered questions about the review package. Reviewers were also provided an instruction package, also available within the Review System, to assist them with their reviews.

On Tuesday, March 9, 2010, evaluators assigned to the program area met --at that meeting, evaluators discussed and provided input to each other about the evaluation of the proposals they reviewed; however, only those evaluators who evaluated a proposal discussed and provided input on that proposal. (As permitted by the Review Process Guidance, some panelists who did not review a proposal, when a general issue was raised to their attention about a proposal or applicant that they had knowledge about, provided factual information pertaining to the issue but in no circumstances did they provide specific input or seek to influence, or participate in deliberations about, the scoring of proposals they did not evaluate.) Following the meeting, each evaluator was allowed to adjust their initial scores for a criterion, as warranted and appropriate per the meeting, and develop a final score for each proposal they evaluated. Each evaluator provided final proposal scores and score sheets through the Review System database. Final average scores were computed and the proposals were ranked based on the scores.

The Review Panel Lead and Focus Area Lead presented the ranked list of proposals to the Selection Official on March 16, 2010. The Selection Official selected the 43 proposals in the respective amounts indicated in the table below. The Selection Official also signed a conflict of interest statement which was placed in the file.

Rank	Org Name	Proposal Name	Scores	Requested Amount	Selection Amount	Comments
1	The Ohio State University College of Public Health	Innovative Rapid Identification of Lake Erie Fecal Sources	95	$249,511	$249,511	Selected for funding
2	Cuyahoga County Board of Health	A Holistic Watershed Approach to Health at Huntington Beach	93.47	$247,518	$247,518	Selected for funding
3	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation	Woodlawn Beach Pollution Source Trackdown & Remediation	90.6	$200,833	$200,833	Selected for funding
4	University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh	Sanitary Surveys of High Risk WI Beaches:Northern WI (1of2)	90.53	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
5	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Botulism/Algal Reporting & Data Management-Public Tools	90.27	$107,980	$107,980	Selected for funding

Rank	Org Name	Proposal Name	Scores	Requested Amount	Selection Amount	Comments
6	Chicago Department of Environment	Ring-billed Gull Management for Lake Michigan Beach Health	88.53	$250,236	$250,236	Selected for funding
7	Chicago Park District	Sanitary Surveys and Stormwater Impacts at Chicago Beaches	87	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
8	University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh	Sanitary Surveys of High Risk WI Beaches:Southern WI (2of2)	86.93	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
9	Door County Soil & Water Conservation Department	Implementation of BMP's at Beaches to Improve Water Quality	86.8	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
10	New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation	Sanitary Surveys: Erie/Ontario/Niagara River NY State Parks	86.13	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
11	Health Research, Inc./New York State Department of Health	Sanitary Surveys at 13 Lake Erie Beaches	86	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
12	Erie County Department of Health	Stream Sanitary Surveys	85.33	$79,076	$79,076	Selected for funding
13	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan-Expanded Lake Superior Beach Testing-Source Trackin	85	$258,010	$258,010	Selected for funding
14	Health Research, Inc./New York State Department of Health	Beach Sanitary Surveys at 9 Lake Ontario Beaches	84.67	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding

Rank	Org Name	Proposal Name	Scores	Requested Amount	Selection Amount	Comments
15	Regional Science Consortium at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center at Presque Isle	Presque Isle Beaches-Bacteria source & role of Cladophora	84.27	$145,596	$145,596	Selected for funding
16	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan-Watershed Center-Bryant Park Remediation	83.93	$267,775	$267,775	Selected for funding
17	Ohio Department of Health	Sanitary Surveys to Reduce Pollution at Lake Erie Beaches	82.2	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
18	Michigan State University	Virus Quantification for Pollution Source Identification	81.27	$217,553	$217,553	Selected for funding
19	New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation	Sanitary Surveys: Ontario/St. Lawrence River NY State Parks	80.9	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
20	Health Research, Inc./New York State Department of Health	Beach Sanitary Surveys at 16 St. Lawrence River Beaches	80.83	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
21	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan-Restoring Three Arenac County Beaches	80.33	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
22	Alliance for the Great Lakes	Volunteer Survey and Restoration of Great Lakes Beaches	79.93	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
23	University of Illinois at Chicago	Reactive Stormwater Filter to Prevent Beach Water Pollution	79.53	$239,358	$239,358	Selected for funding
24	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan Beaches-Bay County Health Department	77.6	$135,025	$135,025	Selected for funding

Rank	Org Name	Proposal Name	Scores	Requested Amount	Selection Amount	Comments
25	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan Beaches-Health Department of Northwest Michigan	77.47	$150,405	$150,405	Selected for funding
26	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan-Expanded Lake St. Clair-Erie Beach Testing-Source T	76.33	$171,025	$171,025	Selected for funding
27	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan Beaches-Chippewa County Health Department	76.03	$230,025	$230,025	Selected for funding
28	Purdue University	Laser Technology for Improving Beach Monitoring for Bacteria	76	$249,785	$249,785	Selected for funding
29	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan Beaches-St. Clair County Health Department	75.13	$162,874	$162,874	Selected for funding
30	Village of Shorewood	Shorewood Atwater Beach - Sewage Contamination Prevention	75.1	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
31	Illinois Department of Public Health	Illinois Beach Sanitary Surveys	74.93	$245,000	$245,000	Selected for funding
32	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan-Expanded Lake Huron Beach Testing-Source Tracking	74.47	$254,025	$254,025	Selected for funding
33	Village of Egg Harbor	Egg Harbor Beach & Boat Trailer Parking Lot Improvements	73.1	$274,682	$274,682	Selected for funding
34	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Integrated Beach Sanitary Surveys Using QPCR Tools	72.6	$258,374	$258,374	Selected for funding
35	Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission	Lake Michigan Sanitary Beach Surveys in NE WI	72.53	$771,376	$771,376	Selected for funding

Rank	Org Name	Proposal Name	Scores	Requested Amount	Selection Amount	Comments
36	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan Beaches-Macomb County Health Department	72.4	$162,874	$162,874	Selected for funding
37	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan Beaches-Ottawa County Health Department	71.47	$97,025	$97,025	Selected for funding
38	Macomb County Health Department	Illicit Discharge Elimination Program Facility Dye Testing	71.37	$250,000	$250,000	Selected for funding
39	Northland College	Chequamegon Bay Partnership Beach Sanitary Surveys Project	71.1	$192,116	$192,116	Selected for funding
40	Indiana Department of Environmental Management	Indiana Lake Michigan Beaches Sanitary Surveys	70.3	$249,999	$249,999	Selected for funding
41	City of Hancock	Hancock Beach BMPs Project	68.7	$244,000	$244,000	Selected for funding
42	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	Michigan-Expanded Lake Michigan Beach Testing-Source Trackin	62.93	$155,025	$155,025	Selected for funding
43	Village of Lake Linden	Village of Lake Linden Torch Lake NPS Pollution Reduction	62.03	$243,000	$243,000	Selected for funding
44	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)
45	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)
46	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)	(b) (5)

Rank	Org Name	Proposal Name	Scores	Requested Amount	Selection Amount	Comments
47	University of South Florida	Mobile Diagnostics System for Great Lakes Contaminants	49.67	$273,476	$0	Not selected
48	Indiana Dunes State Park	Indiana Dunes State Park Beach Grooming	47.67	$72,000	$0	Not selected
49	Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner?s Office	Illicit Connection Removal in Oakland County	45.0	$250,000	$0	Not selected
50	Madison Township	Township Park Beach Cleaning	24.7	$36,000	$0	Not selected

Out of the 50 proposals that were scored and ranked, the range of the final average scores, calculated after the review panel meeting, was 24.70 to 95.00. Of these, 43 projects described below, totaling $10,010,081, have been selected by the Selection Official. The number of projects selected was within the range suggested in the RFP, although the amount selected is somewhat less than suggested in the RFP. [1] As selected by the Selection Official, these project proposals best satisfy the criteria of the RFP.

C. Explanation of why the applicants were selected to submit full applications based on the evaluation and selection factors in the announcement. Additional information on the review process and scoring is included in the Review System.

1. Ohio State University College of Public Health
The Innovative Rapid Identification of Lake Erie Fecal Sources
Score: 95.0
Funding Request: $249,511
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Innovative Rapid Identification of Lake Fecal Sources proposal is for work at $249,511. The project involves routine sanitary and water quality surveys performed in tandem with molecular methods to elucidate human versus waterfowl impacts on advisory conditions at three Ohio beaches. Two rapid molecular tools will also be employed to quantify human- and waterfowl-specific fecal indicator densities.

[1] With respect to the range and amounts of awards for each program area Section I of the RFP stated that, "The expected award amounts and the relative allocations for programs and focus areas are approximations which are subject to change based upon applicable considerations including, but not limited to, EPA's determination that different amounts or allocations would better advance protection and restoration of the Great Lakes ecosystem. In addition, Section II stated that: "The estimated total award dollar amounts and any estimated individual project minimum or maximum amounts identified for the activities under the focus areas in Section I and Appendix I, and the estimated number of projects to be awarded under each of the program activities under a focus area are estimates only and are informational and planning targets provided for proposal preparation purposes."

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
Overall, OSU submitted a strong proposal that received high scores in all of the ranking criteria. As an example, OSU scored 25/25 by all evaluators on their Strategic Approach criterion due to their ability to demonstrate that their approach should result in identification of sources of beach water contamination, improved protection of public health at Great Lakes beaches, and increased knowledge of sources of pollution for better beach management decisions. OSU also received 20/20 by all evaluators on the proposal's Technical and Scientific merit based on the reasonable and viable methods being tested and compared to identify sources of contamination. The applicant scored high (4/5) on their Education/Outreach criterion for the project's strong potential for transferring its findings to other areas, which may lead to further improvements in timeliness and source identification of beach water samples, allowing better remediation decisions. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

2. Cuyahoga County Board of Health
A Holist**ic** Watershed Approach to Health at Huntington Beach" proposal
Score: 93.47
Funding Request: $247,518
Recommendation: Full Funding

A Holistic Watershed Approach to Health at Huntington Beach proposal is for work at $247,518. The project aims to provide a Contamination Prevention Plan to reduce public risk to contamination at Huntington Beach by locating bacteria sources within the Porter Creek Watershed which drains suburban, industrial, and commercial development into Lake Erie near the beach.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The applicant scored high on its strategic approach criterion (23.33/25) because of its well-developed plan to identify pollution sources affecting the watershed, and its ability to demonstrate that bacteria levels will ultimately be reduced and high quality bathing beach opportunities maintained. Its objectives are clearly stated and on target with the RFP, and there's a clear connection to protection of Lake Erie. Cuyahoga County's expected results include identification of potential sources of beach water contamination, which will ultimately allow for corrective actions, and previous research used to identify sources of pollution indicates that the proposal may be "shovel ready." The applicant provides an impressive list of approaches, including monitoring 100 outfalls, genetic fingerprinting of *E. coli* communities, a data evaluation plan, and quality-assurance procedures. The applicant also scored exceptionally high (5/5) in the Education/Outreach criterion, and (10/10) in the Collaboration/Partnership criterion due to its transferability and collaboration among multiple entities involved in water quality, public health, environmental management, and education. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

3. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Woodlawn Beach Pollution Source Trackdown & Remediation
Score: 90.6
Funding Request: $200,833
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Woodlawn Beach Pollution Source Trackdown & Remediation proposal is for work at $200,833. The applicant proposes to continue sanitary survey work conducted over the past two years at Woodlawn Beach State Park located on Lake Erie, including the trackdown of pollution sources in Rush Creek, which is an impaired waterbody, Blasdell Creek and Foster Brook. Identification of remediation measures and watershed best management practices that could improve water quality at Woodlawn Beach are also proposed. The sanitary survey work also identified *Cladophora* and leafy debris as potential pollution sources for the beach. Applicant also proposes to experiment with various beach grooming techniques to reduce contamination from these non point sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal ranked high (25/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion because of its potential for achieving project objectives and expected outcomes and outputs by the project duration as well as its clear connection to protection and restoration of the Great Lakes. The proposal scored very well (4.33/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion as applicant proposes to conduct a good amount of outreach through development of brochures, signs, and/or educational kiosks to educate the public on beach water quality, pollution sources, watershed best management practices and beach grooming techniques. The proposal also scored very high (5/5) under the project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because the proposed project is very cost effective and all the goals are pertinent and extremely important. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

4. The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh's
Sanitary Surveys of High Risk Wisconsin Beaches: Northern Wisconsin
Score: 90.53
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Sanitary Surveys of High Risk WI Beaches: Northern WI (1of 2) proposal is for work at $250,000. The project involves conducting sanitary surveys at all impaired Lake Michigan and Lake Superior beaches in Northern Wisconsin, to identify pollution sources and drive mitigation.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
Applicant scored exceptionally high (25/25) on the Strategic Approach Criterion, as objectives are in line with the RFP under the Beach Sanitary Survey program category. The well-thought out project plan outlines project phases demonstrates they will be able to achieve several outcomes and outputs in the nearshore focus area. Results include completed sanitary surveys, reduced beach closures/advisories, development of water quality management tools with data collected, reduction of pollutants affecting Great Lakes beaches, improved water quality, increased coordination and collaboration among water and health departments, and increased knowledge of sources impacting Great Lakes beaches for better beach management decisions. Project may also eliminate the potential to list the beaches currently on Wisconsin's impaired waters lists (25 of the 34 beaches in project). Applicant also scored very well (18.67/20) on the Technical/Scientific Merit criterion as the applicant will use proven methodologies for identifying sources of microbial contamination and assist in developing mitigation/engineering controls to address issues at 8 communities. The proposal scored well (8.67/10) under the Collaboration and Partnerships criterion as a state-wide partnership is proposed among multiple beach management professionals including academia, municipalities, NGOs, and beach management researchers from across the state, and collaboration will occur with all Wisconsin counties along the Great Lakes. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

5. University of Wisconsin-Madison
Botulism/Algal Reporting & Data Management-Public Tools
Score: 90.27
Funding Request: $107,980

The Botulism/Algal Reporting & Data Management- Public Tools proposal is for work at $107,980. The applicant proposes to deliver web-based and cell phone capability reporting systems to support the public in reporting adverse health events in nearshore waters. The tools will be an adjunct to more standardized beach sanitary surveys, and through the participation of a broader population of observers, increase the number of botulism mortalities, harmful algal blooms, and *Cladophora* overgrowths identified.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The applicant scored exceptionally well (10/10) on the Collaboration and Partnerships criterion, as the necessary collaboration is already in place with an opportunity for expansion into other resource management partners. The proposal scored very well (4.67/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because project partners are willing to aid in their own areas of expertise and the proposed use of citizen volunteers is a very effective way to accomplish the goals. The proposal, which also scored very well (9.33/10) on the Appropriate Budget criterion, was selected based on its ranked order.

6. Chicago Department of Environment
Ring-billed Gull Management for Lake Michigan Beach Health
Score: 88.53
Funding Request: Full Funding

The Ring-billed Gull Management for Lake Michigan Beach Health proposal is for work at $250,236. The applicant proposes an integrated approach to reduce ring-billed gull use of beaches to improve Lake Michigan beach water quality and reduce swim advisories and bans, thereby increasing public enjoyment of beaches. It will also strengthen understanding of connections between gull management techniques, gull use of beaches, and beach water quality. The project will consist of limiting ring-billed gull population production, gull dispersal from a refuse management facility, gull dispersal from beaches (with the aid of canines), monitoring gull use of swimming beaches, and increased educational efforts of beachgoers.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
Overall, the Chicago Department of Environment submitted a strong proposal that received high scores in several of the criteria. Under the Strategic Approach criterion, applicant received 23.33 out of 25 points because applicant's proposed project plan is a very good approach for successfully achieving focus area outcomes, including reducing bacteria to levels that do not impede human use and enjoyment of the nearshore areas, and maintaining high quality bathing beach opportunities by reducing or eliminating impairments from bacterial contamination. Also, there is a clear connection to the protection of Lake Michigan, and the proposed approach to manage gull populations at beaches will likely enable applicant to achieve several expected results outlined in the program area of the RFP, including reduced beach advisories, improved water quality, improved protection of public health at Great Lakes beaches, increased collaboration among stakeholders, and increased knowledge of sources of pollution impacting Great Lakes beaches. Applicant also scored very high in the Appropriate Budget and the Collaboration and Partnerships criteria (9.33/10 for both), and in the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion (4.33/5). The project was selected based on its ranked order.

7. The Chicago Park District
The Sanitary Surveys and Stormwater Impacts at Chicago Beaches
Score: 87.0
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Sanitary Surveys and Stormwater Impacts at Chicago Beaches proposal is for work at $250,000. The applicant proposes a multi-part project consisting of sanitary surveys of nine swimming beaches and an in-depth investigation of select stormwater inputs along Lake Michigan as a potential source of fecal indicator bacteria (*E. coli*) on Chicago beaches.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal, which has a clear connection to the protection of Lake Michigan, scored high (22.35/25) on the Strategic Approach criterion, as the Chicago Park District proposes to conduct surveys with emphasis on storm drains that are suspected to drain into Lake Michigan. The project complements many efforts specific to the region and Lake Michigan, builds on other beach management efforts, and will help fulfill goals, objectives, and recommendations in several Great Lakes plans and strategies. Applicant's approach for performing the project will allow for the achievement of two Nearshore area outcomes and two outputs based on proposed work to identify possible sources of bacteria, which will allow partners/collaborators to take steps to remediate problems. The proposal also scored well (17.33/20) on the Technical/Scientific Merit Criterion, and scored very well (9.33/10) on the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion, as the applicant is partnering with appropriate Federal, state, municipal, and non-profit organizations with expertise on beach management and beach water quality issues. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

8. The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Sanitary Survey of High Risk WI Beaches: Southern WI (2 of 2)
Score: 86.93
Funding Request: Full Funding

The Sanitary Survey if High Risk, WI Beaches: Southern WI (2 of 2) proposal is for work at $250,000. The project involves conducting sanitary surveys at all impaired Lake Michigan beaches in Southeast Wisconsin, to identify pollution sources and drive mitigation. The project aims to accurately characterize the sources of microbial pollution that may impact water quality at 44 Wisconsin beaches on the Impaired Waters list. The contamination sources will be tracked, defined and prioritized for remedial action.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well under the Strategic Approach criterion (23.33/25). It has clear objectives and expected outcomes and outputs, the project is comprehensive and will have regional benefits, and could potentially benefit hundreds of miles of Great Lakes shoreline by decreasing input of bacterial contamination into Lake Michigan. The proposal also scored well (17.33/20) under the Technical/Scientific Merit criterion because the applicant's approach is technically sound, including knowing what limitations to progress may be, and the detailed, step-by-step project plan shows competence and planning. The proposal scored very well (9.33/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion, as applicant proposed extensive collaboration among universities, public health officials and laboratories, local beach managers, local conservation groups, and state agencies. The project, which will serve as a model for other communities having lakes with beach closures, was selected based on its ranked order.

9. Door County Soil & Water Conservation Department's
Implementation of BMP's at Beaches to Improve Water Quality
Score: 86.80
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Implementation of BMP's at Beaches to Improve Water Quality proposal is for work at $250,000. This project will offer municipalities a cost-share incentive for the construction of best management practices to reduce stormwater contamination from entering beaches, increase overall beach health and water quality, and ultimately reduce beach closures and advisories. Each beach is site-specific and has its own design plan, but restoration activities include installation and implementation of green stormwater approaches that will reduce, capture, and treat stormwater discharge and runoff before entering the beach, reduction of impervious surfaces near the beach areas, the re-grading of the beach and park areas to

reduce runoff, diversion of stormwater runoff through installation of rain gardens and bio-filters, and implementation of practices to reduce waterfowl landing and congregation at beaches.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal, which scored very well (9.33/10) under the Measuring Progress criterion, includes tracking progress through construction meetings, completion of BMPs, and beach water quality monitoring to determine whether there has been a reduction in the number of beach closures and advisories. Under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion, the proposal scored well (8.67/10) due to applicant's intent to collaborate with several municipalities within Door County and partner with diverse local, state, and Federal entities with extensive knowledge about proposed project activities. Applicant also intends to work with City of Racine Health Department, UW-Milwaukee Great Lakes Water Institute and USGS Lake Michigan Ecological Research Station. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

10. New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Sanitary Surveys: Erie/Ontario/Niagara River NY State Parks
Score: 86.13
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Sanitary Surveys: Erie/Ontario/Niagara River NY State Parks proposal is for work at $250,000. The applicant proposes to conduct beach sanitary surveys using U.S. EPA's beach sanitary survey tool, at seven New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) beaches located on Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the Niagara River. The sanitary surveys will identify primary pollutants and their source locations, and outline and implement steps toward their remediation. This work will provide for a better understanding of how influences from the surrounding watershed and beach hydrology and dynamics affect beach water quality.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored exceptionally well (5/5) on the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion as costs for equipment, personnel, monitoring, remediation, and travel will be provided by applicant. Applicant also scored very well (23.33/25) in the Strategic Approach criterion because project has a clear connection to protection of the Great Lakes, and will work toward goals in EPA's strategic plan and the Lake Erie and Lake Ontario LaMPs. Also, applicant's approach for performing the project demonstrates they will be able to successfully achieve several of the expected results from the beach sanitary survey program listed in the RFP, including documentation of remediation measures taken and outcomes achieved, development of water quality management tools, improved protection of public health, increased coordination among multiple entities proposed to collaborate on project, and increased knowledge of sources of pollution impacting Great Lakes beaches for better beach management decisions. Proposal also scored well (4.33/5) on the Education/Outreach criterion with its very good plan to disseminate project results and transferability of monitoring protocols, modeling techniques, remediation plans, and field sheets/databases developed with this grant to other Great Lakes beaches. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

11. Health Research, Inc./New York State Department of Health
Sanitary Surveys at 13 Lake Erie Beaches
Score: 86.0
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Sanitary Surveys at 13 Lake Erie Beaches proposal is for work at $250,000. The applicant proposes to conduct beach sanitary surveys using U.S. EPA's sanitary survey tool at nine beaches on eastern Lake

Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. The sanitary surveys will identify primary pollutants and their source locations, and outline and implement steps toward their remediation. This work will provide for a better understanding of how influences from the surrounding watershed and beach hydrology and dynamics affect beach water quality.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored very well (23.33/25) in the Strategic Approach criterion due to the clearly-listed outcomes and outputs that are consistent with the requirements of the RFP. The expected results also clearly match the desired results noted in the RFP. The proposal received a very good score (9.67/10) under the Measuring Progress criterion due to the frequent submission of status reports summarizing progress made, and the final sanitary survey reports which will include identification of point and non-point sources, measures for remediation, documentation of remediation measures taken, and development of predictive models. The proposal received a very good score (14/15) for the Programmatic Capability criterion due to the applicant's successful collaborations with many public and independent entities and its considerable experience and knowledge regarding compliance with state and federal laws and requirements, and managing other federal grants. Applicant has considerable experience with beach monitoring, as it oversees the monitoring and protocols for 77 bathing beaches in New York's State Parks, which includes coordination of weekly bacteriological monitoring and field data collection during the summer season at each beach. Applicant also participated in U.S. EPA's beach sanitary survey pilot project in 2007, completing surveys and identifying sources of contamination at five beaches. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

12. Erie County Department of Health
Stream Sanitary Surveys
Score: 85.33
Funding Request: $79,076
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Stream Sanitary Surveys proposal is for work at $79,076. The applicant proposes to complete stream sanitary surveys on streams that flow into Lake Erie. Rain events deposit large volumes of highly concentrated bacterial contamination from the streams in the lake. Prevailing winds induce inshore currents, carry the contamination to the public beaches, and cause beach closures. All pipes, ditches, sanitary sewer crossings and pump stations will be identified along the streams. Water quality sampling during dry weather and after rain events is used to identify sanitary sewer leaks, and outlets and outfalls that are contamination sources with the presence of human fecal matter.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal received a very good score (4.33/5) for the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because applicant has conducted sanitary surveys in the past (a 2007 Beach Sanitary Survey pilot grant recipient) and is building on know-how, and the extremely cost-effective project design includes numerous activities over three years with a total request of $79,076. Proposal received a good score (8.67/10) under the Appropriate Budget criterion due to the many activities proposed that are likely to result in water quality improvements, and applicant's pledge to provide a good deal of in-kind support. The Collaboration/Partnerships criterion received a high score (8.67/10) for this proposal due to the cooperative effort among the applicant, the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning-Division of Sewage Management, and the applicant's numerous partners. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

13. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's
Michigan-Expanded Lake Superior Beach Testing-Source Tracking
Score: 85.00
Funding Request: $258,010
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan-Expanded Lake Superior Beach Testing-Source Tracking proposal is for work at $258,010. The applicant, in collaboration with three local health departments, propose to expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts, and increasing the number of beaches regularly monitored with beach sanitary surveys. This project will reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and potentially eliminating identified sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (22.33/25) in the Strategic Approach criterion due to the well-targeted study objectives that will address the causes of water quality problems at beaches. The Technical/Scientific Merit score was also high (17.33/20) on the basis of the combined use of expanded monitoring, wet weather monitoring plans, sanitary surveys, and rapid methods. The Collaboration/Partnerships criterion received a high score (8.67/10) because of the applicant's excellent collaboration with local health departments and other partners. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

14. Health Research, Inc./New York State Department of Health
Beach Sanitary Surveys at nine Lake Ontario Beaches
Score: 84.67
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Beach Sanitary Suveys at nine Lake Onatio Beaches proposal is for work at $250,000. The applicant proposes to work with local health departments to conduct sanitary survey assessments of recreational waters adjacent to nine public bathing beaches on Lake Ontario. Site assessments, bacteriological sampling, and other methods will be performed to identify sources of pollution at each beach. Results will be used to help direct remediation efforts to improve water quality, reduce potential bather exposure to pollution and prevent potential illness.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored very well (14/15) in the Programmatic Capability criterion as applicant has successfully managed the Beach Act grant program since 2002 and has coordinated similar sanitary survey projects and grants. The proposal also received a very good score (4/5) in the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because generally accepted project management practices will be used to ensure the project will be conducted in a cost effective manner, including appropriate planning, setting incremental deadlines for project tasks, and monitoring the progress to ensure the tasks are performed and deadlines are met. Proposal scored very well (4.33/5) in the Education/Outreach criterion because of project's transferability, applicant has a long history of providing environmental health information to the public, and it has a diverse group of stakeholders which include local code enforcement officials, county soil and water conservation districts, and local watershed groups. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

15. Regional Science Consortium at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center at Presque Isle's
Presque Isle Beaches-Bacteria Source & Role of *Cladophora*
Score: 84.27
Funding Request: $145,596

Recommendation: Full Funding

The Presque Isle Beaches-Bacteria Source & Role of Cladophora proposal is for work at $145,596. The project proposes to utilize beach sanitary surveys and molecular techniques to increase the knowledge on the role of *Cladophora* and investigate tributaries as a non-point source of pollution impacting Lake Erie swimming beaches at Presque Isle State Park. This knowledge will allow for better beach management decisions.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal ranked high (4.33/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion as almost all of the costs are for personnel, supplies and equipment. Only ten percent of the budget is proposed for administrative costs, the organization is providing matching funds (mainly in kind), it interlocks with existing programs and agencies without overlap, and lists several examples to show project effectiveness and efficiency. The proposal scored well (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion, as the applicant itself is a "collaboration" and has cooperated extensively with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. The proposal scored well (4/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion, as the outreach component is strong, the applicant proposes early sharing of data and access to results, and the sanitary survey data will be available on line. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

16. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's
The Michigan-Watershed Center-Bryant Park Remediation
Score:83.93
Funding Request: $267,775
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan-Watershed Center-Bryant Park Remediation proposal is for work at $267,775. The applicant, in collaboration with the Watershed Center, proposes to implement a storm water infiltration system with additional storm water management efforts at Bryant Park to reduce bacterial contamination at the beach, with the ultimate goal of delisting the beach from the State's Impaired Waters list. This project will reduce human health risks at this heavily used swimming beach by taking measures to eliminate the source of bacterial contamination to reduce the number of pathogen indicator organisms to levels below established criteria.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (4.33/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion due to applicant's Healthy Beaches Program which educates the public about multiple topics via newspaper, radio, and social marketing venues. The proposal received a very good score (9.33/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion, as established partnerships are already in place. The applicant has been working with area county health and city officials to monitor beaches for the last ten years and worked jointly to develop an Action Plan for Healthy Beaches in 2007 to reduce health threats and *E. coli* levels. The proposal scored well (4/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion, as the applicant has already partnered with the local watershed group which called for similar actions in its approved watershed plan. Applicant will continue water quality testing at the beach after all BMPs have been implemented to determine effectiveness of system, and project should successfully reduce contaminants entering the beach area. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

17. Ohio Department of Health's
Sanitary Surveys to Reduce Pollution at Lake Erie Beaches
Score: 82.2
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Sanitary Surveys to Reduce Pollution at Lake Erie Beaches proposal is for work at $250,000. The applicant proposes to conduct comprehensive sanitary surveys at every currently monitored public beach along the Ohio Lake Erie shoreline. The sanitary surveys will be conducted using the U.S. EPA's annual sanitary survey forms and methods. The information from the surveys will be collected and used to determine remediation at the beaches determined to have the most pollution sources and a history of poor water quality as it relates to elevated *E. coli* levels.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (22.33/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion due to its clear objectives, the number of beaches that will be assessed using the beach sanitary survey tool, and there is a clear connection to the protection of Lake Erie.because it is part of the Lake Erie Protection and Restoration Plan. In addition, the project appears "shovel ready" and would augment Ohio's existing beach program. The proposal received a good score (4/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion, as the applicant proposes to use existing resources, effectively identifies tasks and outputs, and has completed a series of successful projects in the past. The proposal received a good score (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/ Partnerships criterion due to the extensive number of organizations proposed to collaborate on this project, including six state agencies, five local health departments, local entities, a university, USGS, and Alliance for the Great Lakes. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

18. Michigan State University
Virus Quantification for Pollution Source Identification
Score: 81.27
Funding Request: $217,553
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Virus Quantification for Pollution Source Identification proposal is for work at $217,553. The applicant proposes to collaborate with USGS and the Michigan Health Department to enhance the beach sanitary surveys with the quantitative species-specific identification of human and animal viruses in order to identify sources of microbial pollution to the Great Lakes beaches and enhance USGS efforts to evaluate factors that influence indicator and pathogen occurrence at Great Lakes beaches.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored exceptionally well (20/20) under the Technical/Scientific Merit criterion, as the beach sanitary surveys will be enhanced with the quantitative species-specific identification of human and animal viruses in order to identify sources of microbial pollution to the Great Lakes beaches, and enhance USGS efforts to evaluate factors that influence indicator and pathogen occurrence at Great Lakes beaches. Also, there is extensive scientific documentation for Michigan State University, USGS, and Michigan Department of Health. The proposal received a good score (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion due to applicant's proposed partnership with multiple entities and because the work is integrated with other proposed efforts. The Education/Outreach criterion scored well (4/5) due to proposed workshop/seminar presentations, educational flyers, and videos on multiple general and laboratory topics, and training. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

19. New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Sanitary Surveys: Ontario/St. Lawrence River NY State Parks
Score: 80.90
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Sanitary Surveys: Ontario/St. Lawrence River NY State Parks proposal is for work at $250,000. Over three years, applicant proposes to conduct beach sanitary surveys using USEPA's sanitary survey tool at

nine New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) beaches located on eastern Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. The sanitary surveys will identify primary pollutants and their source locations, and outline and implement steps toward their remediation. This work will provide for a better understanding of how influences from the surrounding watershed and beach hydrology and dynamics affect beach water quality.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (4.33/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion due to the applicant's considerable experience with federal grants and monitoring requirements, coupled with previous experience conducting similar work, will ensure the successful completion of the goals of this project. The proposal received a good score (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because applicant proposes to work with appropriate partners and intends to submit final sanitary surveys to EPA and other interested parties so they may collaborate on next steps. The proposal scored well (4/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion because of applicant's education and outreach plans, which include development of public education materials, installation of interpretive panels and/or kiosks, and project's transferability. The work done through this grant will give state parks personnel experience in conducting surveys that could be used to improve pollution identification, closure protocols and public health protection at other sites. Monitoring protocols, modeling techniques, and remediation plans developed through this grant may also be applied to other beaches. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

20. Health Research, Inc./New York State Department of Health
Beach Sanitary Surveys at 16 St. Lawrence River Beaches
Score: 80.83
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Beach Sanitary Surveys at 16 St. Lawrence River Beaches proposal is for work at $250,000. The applicant will collaborate with local health departments to conduct sanitary survey assessments of recreational waters adjacent to 16 public bathing beaches on the St. Lawrence River. Site assessments, bacteriological sampling, and other methods will be performed to identify sources of bacterial indicator pollution at each beach. Results will be used to help direct remediation efforts to improve water quality, reduce potential bather exposure to pollution, and prevent potential illness.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (9/10) under the Measuring Progress criterion because the outputs associated with this effort are extensive, including mapping, sanitary survey reports, inclusion of results in an agency database, and tracking of water quality monitoring results before and after remediation. The proposal scored well (13.50/15) under the Programmatic Capability criterion as the applicant has been a BEACH Act grant recipient since 2002 and has met all reporting requirements for the Beach Program in a timely manner. In addition, the project coordinator has conducted similar sanitary survey projects and grants, and other program staff has field/beach and lab experience. The proposal received a very good score (4.33/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion, as applicant has established a proven track record of assuring that funds are utilized in accordance with requirements, and the generally accepted project management practices will be used to ensure the project will be conducted in a cost effective manner, including appropriate planning, setting incremental deadlines for project tasks, and monitoring the progress to ensure the tasks are performed and deadlines are met. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

21. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's
Michigan-Restoring Three Arenac County Beaches

Score: 80.33
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan-Restoring Three Arenac County Beaches proposal is for work at $250,000. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment in collaboration with the Central Michigan District Health Department will monitor three high priority beaches located on Saginaw Bay. This proposal will expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts and increase the number of beaches regularly monitored with beach sanitary surveys to reduce bacterial contamination. These combined efforts will reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and potentially eliminating identified sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal received a good score (20.67/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion because it has good potential for achieving project objectives and expected outcomes and outputs by the project duration. The "shovel-ready" project will take place on beaches of the Great Lakes, will generally protect human health, and a database will be provided with additional data to be used for other improvement purposes. The proposal scored well (13/15) under the Programmatic Capability criterion due to the applicant's good track record for past performance, its staff expertise, and its nicely detailed plan for reporting. Also, the work plan is extremely well laid out in the proposal. The proposal received a very good (4/5) score under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because this project will improve water quality and provide much needed data, all with an appropriate budget. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

22. Alliance for the Great Lakes
The Volunteer Survey and Restoration of Great Lakes Beaches
Score: 79.93
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Volunteer Survey and Restoration of Great Lakes Beaches proposal is for work at $250,000. The applicant is requesting funding to develop and implement a program by which volunteers trained on quality-assured deployment of the U.S. EPA sanitary survey work hand-in-hand with beach managers to monitor beaches in Areas of Concern (AOCs) that have been designated as having beneficial use impairments for beach closures; to assist in litter removal and analysis at expanded sites in a six state area; and to work directly with beach health officials and other agencies to provide program Sanitary Survey data including potential pollution sources at sites in order to improve conditions at these sites.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (4/5) for the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion, as the project encompasses 39 beaches and uses volunteers extensively to conduct the sanitary surveys and beach clean-ups. EPA oversight would be straightforward and recruitment and beach numbers should indicate progress. The proposal scored well (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion due to the applicant's extensive collaboration with other organizations around Lake Michigan that are involved in recreational water issues. The proposal received a very high score (4.67/5) for the Education/Outreach criterion due to applicant's plan to get local citizens involved and out on the beach, and trained in volunteer monitoring, which is a key component of the organization's "Adopt a Beach" program. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

23. University of Illinois at Chicago
Reactive Stormwater Filter to Prevent Beach Water Pollution

Score: 79.53
Funding Request: $239,358
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Reactive Stormwater Filter to Prevent Beach Water Pollution proposal is for work at $239,358. The ultimate goal of this project is to demonstrate an in-ground permeable reactive filter system to remove a wide range of contaminants from stormwater runoff from urban paved source areas near beaches dominated by traffic loadings. The specific objectives of this project are to correlate the urban stormwater runoff quality to beach water quality monitoring parameters, to quantify contaminant attenuation and/or degradation capacity and hydraulic efficiency of filter media individually and in sequence simulating layered filter design under different simulated urban stormwater runoff events, and demonstrate the near full-scale design to document flow rate, volume treated, and contaminant removal. The outcome of this project is improvement in the near shore (beach) water quality for public health protection and healthy aquatic habitats.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (21/25) in the Strategic Approach criterion, as the study is important and applicant's proposed approach for performing the project appears that they will be able to successfully achieve several outcomes and outputs, and the project has a clear connection to protection of the Great Lakes. The proposal received a very good score (4/5) in the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because project appears to be designed in a cost effective manner, and the media proposed for use is inexpensive and is easily available from local suppliers. The proposal scored well (8/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because the applicants intend to work very well in partnership with appropriate partners. The team is formed of a group of individuals representing local government agencies, and the applicant will seek partnerships and collaborations from other state and private organizations during the project. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

24. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Beaches-Bay County Health Department
Score: 77.60
Funding Request: $135,025
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan Beaches-Bay County Health Department proposal is for work at $135,025. The applicant, in collaboration with the Bay County Health Department, will monitor five high priority beaches located on Saginaw Bay. This proposal will expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts, and increase the number of beaches regularly monitored with beach sanitary surveys to reduce bacterial contamination. This project will also implement rapid methods to monitor beaches and develop a regression-based model. These combined efforts will reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and potentially eliminating identified sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (8/10) under the Appropriate Budget criterion because the budget appears to be very reasonable considering the amount of work proposed to be conducted at multiple beaches, including increased beach sampling, completion of sanitary surveys, development of a regression-based model, rapid method testing, and source tracking efforts, all of which will help to achieve numerous expected results outlined in the RFP. The proposal received a good score (8.67/10) in the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion as the applicant will work very well in partnership with Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative, other state agencies, and local governments. The proposal received a good score (3.33/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion due the applicability of project results to other beaches

and because project results will be shared among all organizations involved so that beach management decisions will be based on sound science. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

25. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Beaches-Health Department of Northwest Michigan
Score: 77.47
Funding Request: $150,405
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan Beaches-Health Department of Northwest Michigan proposal is for work at $150,405. The applicant, in collaboration with the Health Department of Northwest Michigan, will monitor 31 public beaches along the Lake Michigan coastline in Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet Counties. This proposal will expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts, increase the number of beaches regularly monitored with beach sanitary surveys to reduce bacterial contamination, and will begin using rapid methods to monitor their beaches. The project aims to reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and eliminating identified sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored very well (13.80/15) under the Programmatic Capability criterion, as there is a clear demonstration of excellent past performance for previous assistance agreements. Applicant has successfully managed and completed 80 state-funded grant projects since 2000, has successfully managed and completed the 2007 Great Lakes Beach Sanitary Survey pilot project, and continues to successfully manage the BEACH Act implementation grants. The proposal received a very good score (4/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion, as the proposed project appears to be designed to be performed in a very cost effective manner which can easily be monitored by EPA. The proposal scored well (3.33/5) under the Education/ Outreach criterion due to transferability of project results to other beaches and for applicant's plan for disseminating project results. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

26. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan-Expanded Lake St. Clair-Erie Beach Testing-Source Tracking
Score: 76.33
Funding Request: $171,025
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan-Expanded Lake St. Clair-Erie Beach Testing-Source Tracking proposal is for work at $171,025. The applicant, in collaboration with two local health departments, proposes to expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts and increase the number of beaches regularly monitored with beach sanitary surveys. This project will reduce bacterial contamination at high priority beaches and reduce human health risks by improving monitoring, enhancing the investigation of sources of bacterial contamination, and potentially eliminating identified sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (13/15) under the Programmatic Capability criterion. Applicant has been actively involved in Great Lakes beach monitoring projects, training, research and development of beach management tools prior to inception of the BEACH Act grant program in 2001. Applicant has successfully managed and completed the 2007 Great Lakes Beach Sanitary Survey pilot project and 80 state funded grants since 2003, and continues to implement the BEACH Act Implementation grants. The collaborating local health departments, which have been involved in monitoring Great lakes and area inland lakes since 2003, will implement beach water quality monitoring and analysis, and applicant will

oversee project administration. The proposal scored very well (4/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion, as the project appears to be designed in a very cost effective manner that will achieve numerous expected results outlined in the RFP. The proposal received a good score (8/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion, as applicant has established working relationships with the health departments that will be carrying out the work. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

27. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Beaches-Chippewa County Health Department
Score: 76.03
Funding Request: $230,025
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan Beaches-Chippewa County Health Department proposal is for work at $230,025. The applicant, in collaboration with the Chippewa County Health Department, will conduct sanitary surveys and monitor four high priority beaches more frequently, and initiate monitoring with sanitary surveys at six beaches located on Lake Superior and the St. Mary's River. This project will also use rapid methods to monitor high priority beaches and develop a regression-based model. These combined efforts will reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and potentially eliminating identified sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (19.33/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion, as applicant's approach for performing the project appears that they will be able to achieve several outputs from the Nearshore focus area of the RFP, including completion of sanitary surveys, development of other water quality management tools with the data collected, improved protection of public health at Great Lakes beaches, increased coordination and collaboration among water and health departments, and increased knowledge of sources of pollution impacting Great Lakes beaches for better beach management decisions. The proposal scored well (8/10) under the Appropriate Budget criterion because the budget appears to be very reasonable considering 13 beaches are included in the project plan. The proposal received a good score (3.67/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion, as the results dissemination plan includes notifying stakeholders and the public of testing results via posting to applicant's website, press releases, and newsletter articles. In addition, the project results will be transferable to other beaches. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

28. Purdue University
Laser Technology for Improving Beach Monitoring for Bacteria
Score: 76
Funding Request: $249,785
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Laser Technology for Improving Beach Monitoring for Bacteria proposal is for work at $249,785. In response to the need for microbial source tracking at Great Lakes beaches and actions on reducing the level of bacterial contamination, the applicant proposes to develop a new accurate, rapid, and easy to use laser bio-imaging technology, work closely with Lake Michigan beach managers through outreach activities and education programs, and implement innovative technology for identifying the host species of *E. coli* at various beaches of Lake Michigan as well as assist the beach managers in developing strategies for reducing bacterial contamination and improve the beach water quality.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored exceptionally well (18.67/20) under the Technical/Scientific Merit criterion because it is both a scientific study and implementation of a new method into practical use which should lead to an

improvement in overall water quality and positively affect human and ecological health. The proposal scored very well (4/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion, as it is an effective way to create and implement a new survey technique. The proposal received a good score (3.33/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion because of the many layers to the educational experience that this proposal offers to provide, and because the professors intend to act as liaisons with surveyors to implement the new system. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

29. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Beaches-St. Clair County Health Department
Score: 75.13
Funding Request: $162,874
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan Beaches-St. Clair County Health Department proposal is for work at $162,874. The applicant, in collaboration with the St. Clair County Health Department, will monitor 15 public beaches along the Lake Huron coastline and St. Clair River. This proposal will expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts, increase the number of beaches regularly monitored with beach sanitary surveys to reduce bacterial contamination, and will begin using rapid methods to monitor beaches. This project will reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and potentially eliminating identified sources of pollution.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
This proposal scored exceptionally well (14.80/15) under the Programmatic Capability criterion, as applicant successfully managed the 2007 Great Lakes Beach Sanitary Survey pilot project, has successfully managed the annual BEACH Act implementation grants since 2003, and has completed 80 state-funded grant projects since 2000. In addition, applicant has experience with beach monitoring and beach program databases which will be useful for project management. Also, the collaborating health department has conducted the Bathing Beach/Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program for all six of the public beaches in the county since 1950, and has participated in several projects to eliminate illicit connections, improve infrastructure, and implement best management practices that have significantly improved the watershed. The proposal received a very good score (4/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion, as the project appears to be designed in a cost effective manner, the applicant and collaborator have ten or more years of experience monitoring beaches, two or more years of experience using beach sanitary surveys, and are familiar with potential remediation strategies. The proposal scored very well (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because applicant and collaborator propose to work with other state agencies, citizens, local government officials and multiple regional and federal agencies. Furthermore, the project is part of an overall plan for the Lake St. Clair and Clinton River AOC, which is consistent with the RFP for the Beach Sanitary Survey category, which encourages projects to be performed in the 30 U.S./Binational Areas of Concern. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

30. The Village of Shorewood
Shorewood Atwater Beach - Sewage Contamination Prevention
Score: 75.10
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Shorewood Atwater Beach- Sewage Containment Prevention proposal is for work at $250,000. This proposal will implement a comprehensive approach to invasive species control, targeting terrestrial as well as nearshore areas of Chequamegon Bay. Applicant's approach will use prevention, education, eradication and restoration, as the methods to achieve control. By expanding existing successful programs

and partnerships, applicant intends to address invasive expansion in the Great Lakes basin through educational programs at boat landings, native plant restorations, select herbicidal treatment, and implementation of an invasive free soil certification program. Eradication of invasive species will take place through a variety of proven methods, along with an active native restoration effort.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (19/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion because project has good potential for achieving the objectives and expected outcomes and outputs identified in the RFP by the project duration. The proposal received a good score (8/10) under the Collaboration and Partnerships criterion because of extensive collaboration among multiple entities, including Friends of Atwater Beach (FAB), Great Lakes WATER Institute, and the University of Wisconsin. The proposal scored very well (4/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion because of the applicant's plan to disseminate project results and because of the strong public support of Atwater Beach which includes a citizen group that is organized around the restoration and improvement of Atwater Beach. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

31. Illinois Department of Public Health
Illinois Beach Sanitary Surveys
Score: 74.93
Funding Request: $245,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Illinois Beach Sanitary Surveys proposal is for work at $245,000. The applicant proposes to perform sanitary surveys on at least ten beaches during the 2010 season. The applicant identified swim beaches with a high rate of water quality standards exceedances from a variety of sources and with significant impact on Lake Michigan water quality. The applicant, in collaboration with local and county agencies, will perform detailed sanitary surveys of the swim beaches and the relevant watershed to identify all sources of pollution contributing to the water quality standards exceedances. Applicant will prepare remediation plans and recommend these plans be executed by the local jurisdiction.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (20.67/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion because the proposed approach will enable applicant to achieve many Nearshore area outputs and expected results listed in the Beach Sanitary Surveys program area of the RFP. The proposal scored very well (13.60/15) under the Programmatic Capability criterion since applicant maintains programmatic responsibility for public swimming throughout Illinois and has all the necessary resources to address the technical and managerial requirements of this project. Also, applicant is the administrator for Illinois' BEACH Act grants and for the 2007 Beach Sanitary Survey Great Lakes pilot grant project, and has the experience to timely and successfully achieve project objectives. In addition, the lead staff from the collaborating entity has worked extensively on Lake Michigan beach issues and conducted one of Illinois' two beach sanitary survey pilot projects. The proposal scored well (7.33/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion as applicant proposes to collaborate with beach management jurisdictions on Lake Michigan, including municipalities along the lake responsible for the watershed that would perform the field work for the beach sanitary surveys, all of which have extensive knowledge of the area, factors impacting the watershed and knowledge of potential discharges. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

32. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan-Expanded Lake Huron Beach Testing-Source Tracking
Score: 74.47
Funding Request: $254,025
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan-Expanded Lake Huron Beach Testing-Source Tracking proposal is for work at $254,025. The applicant, in collaboration with four local agencies, proposes to expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts and increasing the number of beaches regularly monitored with beach sanitary surveys to reduce bacterial contamination at beaches. This project intends to reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and potentially eliminating identified sources of pollution.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (20.67/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion, as there is a clear connection to protection and restoration of the Great Lakes. The applicant intends to expand beach contamination source identification efforts to all of the coastal beaches in Michigan, resulting in a greater number of priority watersheds taking action for remediation, restoration and conservation to reduce nutrient, sediment, pathogen, and chemical contamination from urban, agricultural and other nonpoint sources. These activities will enable applicant to achieve Nearshore objectives, outputs and expected results as listed in the Beach Sanitary Survey section of the RFP. The proposal received a very good score (8.67/10) for the Appropriate Budget criterion because of all the work proposed at 19 beaches in seven counties with a very reasonable budget. The proposal scored well (8/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because of the applicant's collaboration with local health departments, municipal officials, academia, Federal beach management entities, local water quality laboratories, and local watershed groups. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

33. Village of Egg Harbor
Egg Harbor Beach & Boat Trailer Parking Lot Improvements
Score: 73.10
Funding Request: $274,682
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Egg Harbor Beach & Boat Trailer Parking Lot Improvements proposal is for work at $274,682. The applicant desires to improve nearshore health and reduce nonpoint source pollution to Green Bay. The applicant intends to expand upon a beach improvement project by installing a biofilter/ infiltration basin, replacing impervious surfaces with pervious pavement, redirecting parking lot runoff, and restoring disturbed areas with native vegetation intended to discourage waterfowl. The applicant also intends to complete the development of their event and boat trailer overflow parking lot by installing a biofilter to reduce the loading of sediments and pollutants to Green Bay.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (19.67/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion, as the project has the potential for achieving project objectives and expected outcomes and outputs by the project duration. There is a clear connection to protection of the Great Lakes through the applicant's proposal to reduce nonpoint source stormwater pollution from entering the lake by infiltrating parking lot runoff and sediment, phosphorus, heavy metals volatile organic compounds and *E. coli*. The proposal received a good score (3.67/5) for the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because the applicant has been involved in state and Federally-funded projects and has experience in overseeing water, sewer and stormwater runoff projects. Also, it appears that the project is designed in a cost effective manner to facilitate oversight and administration of the project based on the schedule provided, the history of community project grants, and because the applicant will provide in-kind services (equipment and labor) to minimize the costs. The proposal received a good score (8/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because of the project's support by several community organizations, the members of which intend to collaborate on project activities. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

34. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Integrated Beach Sanitary Surveys Using QPCR Tools
Score: 72.60
Funding Request: $258,374
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Integrated Beach Sanitary Surveys Using QPCR Tools proposal is for work at $258,374. Information using molecular tools will be integrated into Michigan beach sanitary surveys along with an investigation of the transport of target DNA signals for multiple Great Lakes beaches. These data will be collected with the help of county health departments. The proposed project intends to compare the performance of the molecular methods with conventional tests, to produce an approach/protocol to use these assays and/or target organisms in routine and annual sanitary surveys, and will aid in current surveys to identify sources of microbial contamination influencing recreational water quality.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (17.33/20) under the Technical/Scientific Merit criterion because it seems to have a very solid theoretical basis and it will allow county health departments to acquire equipment to run molecular tests and provide information on how data from these methods can be used to characterize sources of contamination and integrate it into sanitary survey protocols and approaches. The proposal scored well (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion as applicant is collaborating with several county health departments and two universities. The proposal received a good score (3.33/5) for the Education/Outreach criterion because educational training is planned, and because applicant intends to present findings at multiple scientific conferences and peer-reviewed papers. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

35. Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission
Lake Michigan Sanitary Beach Surveys in NE WI
Score: 72.53
Funding Request: $771,376
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Lake Michigan Sanitary Beach Surveys in NE WI proposal is for work at $771,376 for a two year period. This project is focused on using high resolution multi-spectral aerial mapping technology to remotely identify the major factors contributing to beach pollution and deteriorated water quality in the nearshore areas of Lake Michigan that are included within the boundaries of the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission. This project encompasses approximately 400 miles of shoreline within the counties of Marinette, Kewaunee, Manitowoc and Sheboygan. Such regional data would allow for more comprehensive cause and effect comparisons and provide invaluable tools for regional planning and remediation activities.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (21/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion because the inclusion of designs for reducing nonpoint source pollution show a clear connection to protection of the Great Lakes, the activities will impact Areas of Concern, and are in line with achieving the objectives, expected outcomes and outputs in the Beach Sanitary Survey program area of the RFP. The proposal received a good score (8/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because the applicant intends to provide information collected and analyzed during the project to multiple local, state and Federal entities for collaboration and coordination of beach management programs in order to promote an effective and efficient watershed approach to impairment issues. The proposal scored well (4/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion because of the well thought-out outreach plans at appropriate points in the project. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

36. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Beaches-Macomb County Health Department
Score: 72.40
Funding Request: $162,874
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan Beaches-Macomb County Health Department proposal is for work at $162,874. The applicant, in collaboration with the Macomb County Health Department, proposes to increase the frequency of beach monitoring and increase the number of beaches monitored on Lake St. Clair with beach sanitary surveys. The applicant also intends to use rapid methods to monitor beaches (contingent upon funding for equipment) and use all monitoring data in the development of a regression-based model. These combined efforts expect to reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring and investigating sources of bacterial contamination.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (3.33/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion as project appears to be designed in a cost effective manner and the applicant and collaborator have ten or more years of experience monitoring beaches, at least two years experience of using beach sanitary surveys, and are familiar with potential remediation strategies. The proposal scored well (8/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because the project is part of an overall plan for the Lake St. Clair and Clinton River Area of Concern, and the applicant and collaborator propose to partner with multiple local, regional, state and federal entities. The proposal received a good score (3.33/5) in the Education/Outreach criterion, as applicant proposes to notify stakeholders and the public of testing results and information will be shared among all organizations involved to improve knowledge on which beach management decisions are based. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

37. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Beaches-Ottawa County Health Department
Score: 71.47
Funding Request: $97,025
Recommendation: Full Funding

The *Michigan Beaches-Ottawa County Health Department* proposal is for work at $97,025. The applicant, in collaboration with the Ottawa County Health Department, will monitor two high priority beaches located on Lake Michigan. Applicant proposes to expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts with beach sanitary surveys to reduce bacterial contamination. Applicant also proposes to implement rapid methods to monitor their beaches and develop a regression-based model. These combined efforts expect to reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and potentially eliminating identified sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (3.33/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion as the project appears to be designed in a cost effective manner and the applicant, which is the BEACH Act grant recipient for the state of Michigan, successfully implemented the 2007 Great Lakes Beach Sanitary Survey Pilot grant project, and continues to implement the BEACH Act grants in a cost effective manner. The proposal scored well (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because the applicant intends to work with appropriate partners, including researchers from the USGS and the University of Michigan in association with NOAA's Center of Excellence for Great Lakes and Human Health. The proposal received a good score (3.33/5) in the Education/Outreach criterion because of the applicant's

plan to disseminate project results and because of the transferability of the project's results to other beaches. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

38. Macomb County Health Department
Illicit Discharge Elimination Program Facility Dye Testing
Score: 71.37
Funding Request: $250,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The *Illicit Discharge Elimination Program Facility Dye Testing* proposal is for work at $250,000. The applicant proposes to identify and correct illicit connections in Macomb County responsible for the discharge of 6.8 million gallons of wastewater per year. This "shovel-ready" project proposes investigation of upstream sources of pollution potentially affecting beaches along Lake St. Clair.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (18/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion, as it is in the Clinton River Area of Concern and it and will assist in delisting beaches/beneficial use impairments. Also, the applicant's approach appears likely to result in achievement of several focus area outcomes and outputs listed in the RFP, including reducing bacteria and maintaining high quality bathing beach opportunities. The proposal received a good score (7.67/10) under the Measuring Progress criterion as measurement for the main expected outcome will be the reduction of thousands of gallons of wastewater no longer being discharged to surface waters for every illicit connection that is identified and corrected. Also, water quality standards data will be used to measure progress towards achieving the TMDL, eliminating beneficial use impairments, and to prioritize areas for investigation. The proposal scored well (4/6) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because project appears to be designed in a cost effective manner and is likely to efficiently achieve results. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

39. Northland College
Chequamegon Bay Partnership Beach Sanitary Surveys Project
Score: 71.10
Funding Request: $192,116
Recommendation: Full Funding

The *Chequamegon Bay Partnership Beach Sanitary Surveys Project* proposal is for work at $192,116. The applicant proposes to conduct beach sanitary surveys on eight tribal beaches in the Lake Superior Basin and implement actions to target, reduce, and remove the contamination identified in the watershed. Two area beaches have been listed on Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource's Impaired Water's List due to the presence of *E. coli*. Other area beaches have been cited at advisory levels. Tribal partners are concerned that contaminants may be present at the eight tribal beaches. Partners propose to target contamination sources and implement remediation actions.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal scored well (19/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion as a reduction in beach closures/advisories is anticipated through the identification and management of pollution sources that lead to beach closures/advisories in Chequamegon Bay, which will enable applicant to achieve project objectives and several of the RFP's expected outcomes and outputs by the project duration. Also, two of the project beaches are on Wisconsin's 303(d) list. The proposal scored exceptionally well (9.33/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion, as applicant is a founding member of the Chequamegon Bay Area Partnership which includes regional, state, federal, tribal, county city and non-governmental agencies, which worked collaboratively to develop their proposal. The proposal received a good score (3.67/5) under the Education/ Outreach criterion because of applicant's plan to disseminate project results

and because of applicant's 30 years of experience in providing education and outreach for community education, environmental conservation and research. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

40. Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Indiana Lake Michigan Beaches Sanitary Surveys
Score: 70.30
Funding Request: $249,999
Recommendation: Full Funding

The *Indiana Lake Michigan Beaches Sanitary Surveys* proposal is for work at $249,999. The applicant proposes to conduct sanitary surveys and microbial source tracking at Indiana's Lake Michigan coastal beaches and river outfalls in order to determine sources of bacterial contamination. It is expected that identification of contamination sources will lead to remediation and restoration measures that will ultimately eliminate sources and improve water quality, as well as contribute to delisting the beach closures beneficial use impairment for those coastal beaches located within the Grand Calumet River Area of Concern (AOC).

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
The proposal received a good score (19/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion because project will work toward progress in meeting beach closure delisting targets for the Grand Calumet River/Indiana Harbor Ship Canal AOC. Project also possesses clear links to goals outlined in the Lake Michigan Lakewide Area Management Plan (LaMP) and local watershed management plans. Proposal scored well (8.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion because applicant proposes to collaborate with USGS and with local beach managers throughout the entire project and take a collaborative approach to beach management, aiding local beach program managers on best management practices. The proposal received a good score (3.67/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion because of applicant's plan to present results and outcomes at multiple local public and stakeholder meetings, workshops, and speaking engagements. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

41. The City of Hancock
Hancock Beach BMPs Project
Score: 68.70
Funding Request: $244,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The *Hancock Beach BMPs Project* proposal is for work at $244,000. The applicant proposes to design stormwater integrated management practices at Hancock Beach to reduce nonpoint source pollution into Portage Lake and Lake Superior. Currently, stormwater is untreated and volumes are above predevelopment levels causing significant erosion and water quality problems near the beach. The best management practices (porous surfaces, bioretention areas and channel restoration) will infiltrate stormwater into the subsurface allowing pollutants, such as sediment, nutrients, and bacteria, to be intercepted rather than discharged into Portage Lake.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
While their score is only fair, this proposal has been selected because it will reduce risk to human health by reducing levels of bacteria at one of the most visited beaches by the residents and college students in the Houghton-Hancock, Michigan, area. The proposal received a good score (19/25) under the Strategic Approach criterion because there is a clear connection to protection and restoration of the Great Lakes. This shovel-ready project, which would affect an impaired water body connected to Lake Superior, would improve protection of public health by reducing levels of bacteria through installation of stormwater infiltration systems, enabling applicant to achieve several of the expected results in the beach sanitary

survey program area of the RFP. The proposal scored well (3.33/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion because of applicant's successful history of federal oversight, history of previous infrastructure projects, and staff qualifications. The applicant received a very good score (4.33/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion because of planned outreach to schools and local citizenry, education opportunities with local schools seem well thought out, and there will be public education through media and field trips, as well as university involvement.

42. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan-Expanded Lake Michigan Beach Testing-Source Tracking
Score: 62.93
Funding Request: $155,025
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Michigan-Expanded Lake Michigan Beach Testing-Source Tracking proposal is for work at $155,025. The applicant, in collaboration with six local public health agencies, proposes to expand the frequency and duration of beach monitoring efforts and increase the number of beaches regularly monitored with beach sanitary surveys to reduce bacterial contamination. One of the local agencies also intends to begin using rapid methods to monitor their beaches. This project expects to reduce human health risks at high priority beaches by improving monitoring, investigating sources of bacterial contamination, and eliminating identified sources.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
While their score is only fair, this proposal has been selected because it is a large project that has the potential to improve water quality at 39 high priority Lake Michigan beaches, and the results will be transferable to beaches across the Great Lakes. The proposal received a good score (10.60/15) in the Programmatic Capability criterion because the applicant has successfully managed and completed the 2007 Great Lakes Beach Sanitary Survey Pilot Project, continues to implement the BEACH Act implementation grants in a cost effective manner for the State of Michigan since 2003, has successfully managed and completed 80 state funded grant projects since 2000, and has demonstrated excellent past performance in previous assistance agreements. In addition, the applicant has been actively involved for the past ten years in Great Lakes beach monitoring projects, training, research, the development of several tools, provides expert testimony for water quality standards, and assists health departments and researchers with monitoring strategies, data analysis, microbial source tracking, and the implementation of new technology including rapid methods to analyze microorganisms and models to forecast or predict beach water quality. The proposal scored well (6.67/10) under the Appropriate Budget criterion, as numerous activities are proposed to be conducted benefiting 39 high priority Lake Michigan beaches with a very reasonable budget. The proposal scored well (3.67/5) under the Education/Outreach criterion because applicant proposes to conduct outreach at the local level through the Watershed Center to educate the public about healthy beaches issues and relay results from this testing program through newspaper and radio advertising. In addition, the collaborating health departments will post advisories of any bacterial contamination above accepted parameters and report results to the public. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

43. The Village of Lake Linden
Village of Lake Linden Torch Lake NPS Pollution Reduction
Score: 62.03
Funding Request: $243,000
Recommendation: Full Funding

The Village of Lake Linden Torch Lake NPS Pollution Reduction proposal is for work at $243,000. The applicant is in the process of implementing water quality improvement Best Management Practices

(BMPs) at two municipal beach parking lots. The proposed BMPs include paving the parking lots with a combination of asphalt and porous pavement, and incorporating bioinfiltration adjacent to the parking lots.

Why Selected Based on the Evaluation and Selection Factors in the Announcement:
While their score is only fair, this proposal has been selected because the proposed project could potentially result in a significant reduction of nonpoint source stormwater pollution, including heavy metals and sediment, in Torch Lake, which will work towards the goal of delisting the Torch Lake Area of Concern. The proposal received a good score (10.37/15) under the Programmatic Capability criterion, as applicant has received numerous federal grant awards, and has a history of meeting reporting requirements. Also, based on the types of projects identified by applicant for which it has received funding over the last several years, and on the staff expertise and qualifications (foreman has 35 years in overseeing water, sewer and storm runoff in the village and neighboring townships), it appears that the applicant is experienced and capable of achieving project objectives. The proposal received a good score (3.33/5) under the Project Effectiveness and Efficiency criterion as applicant has been involved in multiple state and Federally-funded projects, applicant intends to provide in-kind services (equipment and labor), and the project is designed in a cost effective manner to facilitate oversight and administration of the project. Project received a good score (6.67/10) under the Collaboration/Partnerships criterion as the project is supported by several community organizations, and the applicant intends to collaborate with appropriate partners. The project was selected based on its ranked order.

Attachment 1

SELECTION CRITERIA FROM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals meeting the threshold eligibility criteria in Section III were evaluated based on the criteria set forth below. Applicants were asked to directly and explicitly address these criteria as part of their proposal submittal. Each submittal was rated under a points system, with a total of 100 points possible. Applicants were evaluated based on the quality and extent to which they addressed the criteria; the failure to provide applicable information in the proposal likely affected the score assigned for a criterion.

A. Strategic Approach. Applicants will be evaluated based on their strategic approach for performing the project including how they demonstrate that they will be able to timely and successfully achieve (i) the objectives and expected outcomes and outputs that apply to the focus area identified in Section I that the proposal addresses (10 points) and (ii) the expected results that apply to the specific program activity, as described in Appendix I, to which the proposal relates (15 points).

Applicants may score higher on this criterion to the extent they demonstrate in their proposal one or more of the following elements:

- A clear connection, rather than a weak connection, to protection and restoration of the Great Lakes themselves;
- Immediacy and timeliness in project implementation ("shovel ready") and in attaining outcomes, outputs, and expected results including protection and restoration;
- Protection or restoration potential as part of an overarching, comprehensive plan (including Lakewide Management Plans, Remedial Action Plans, State Great Lakes plans, watershed plans (including those which impact Areas of Concern), and other place-based plans);
- Potential for achieving project objectives within the project duration.

In considering the protection or restoration potential (the third bullet above) of a proposal for any Nearshore and Nonpoint Source Pollution program under Section I.C of this RFP which is part of an overarching, comprehensive plan, the project may receive a higher score to the extent that: identifiable impairments have been identified and the causes for those impairments have been clearly established; solutions to remediation of the impairments have been identified; broadly supported implementation activities have been designed; and there is potential for significant measurable results.

B. Technical/Scientific Merit. Applicants will be evaluated based on the technical and scientific merit of the proposed project including the soundness, logic, and reasonableness of the technical approach, including its design, objectives, and scientific viability. Results of any applicable scientific peer review of the project which has already been completed will be considered as a part of this criterion. (20 points)

See Appendix I Section I.A.10 (Toxicant TMDL Development) and Appendix I Section I.C.7 (Total Maximum Daily Loads-non-toxicants) for further information pertaining to the evaluation of proposals for these areas under this criterion.

C. Measuring Progress toward Outcomes, Outputs, and Results. Applicants will be evaluated based on their plan and approach for measuring and tracking their progress towards achieving the (i) expected outcomes and outputs identified in Section I that apply to the focus area to which the

proposal relates (5 points) and (ii) expected results described in Appendix I that apply to the program activity to which the proposal relates (5 points).

D. Programmatic Capability. Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project taking into account their: (i) past performance in successfully completing and managing the assistance agreements identified in response to Section IV.B of the RFP (3 points), (ii) history of meeting the reporting requirements under the assistance agreements identified in response to Section IV.B of the RFP including whether the applicant submitted acceptable final technical reports under those agreements and the extent to which the applicant adequately and timely reported on their progress towards achieving the expected outputs and outcomes under those agreements and if such progress was not being made whether the applicant adequately reported why not (3 points), (iii) organizational experience and plan for timely and successfully achieving project objectives (3 points), and (iv) staff expertise/qualifications, staff knowledge, and resources or the ability to obtain qualified staff and resources on a timely basis, to successfully achieve project goals (6 points). Note: In evaluating applicants under items (i) and (ii) of this criterion, the Agency will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources including agency files and prior/current grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information supplied by the applicant). If you do not have any relevant or available past performance or reporting information, please indicate this in the proposal and you will receive a neutral score for these sub-factors (a neutral score is one half of the points available for the item). If you do not provide any response for these items, you may receive a score of 0 for these factors.

NOTE: For projects involving use or collection of environmental data, the applicant's timely compliance with current American National Standard Specifications and Guidelines for Quality Systems for Environmental Data Collection and Environmental Technology Programs, ANSI/ASQC E4-1994 may also be considered.

E. Appropriate Budget. Proposals will be evaluated based on the reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget for the level of work proposed and for the expected benefits to be achieved. (10 points)

F. Project Effectiveness and Efficiency. Proposals will be evaluated based on whether and how the project is designed to be performed by the applicant in a cost effective manner to facilitate EPA oversight and administration of the project. (5 points)

G. Collaboration/Partnerships (See Section IV.B 10). Applicants will be evaluated based on the extent to which they demonstrate that they will work in partnership with appropriate partners (such as government agencies (including applicable regulatory entities), community groups, businesses, stakeholders, States, Cities, and Counties) to effectively and efficiently implement the proposed project and whether their project is coordinated with and/or complements other projects or activities being performed to produce a greater positive impact from their project. This includes evaluating the Applicant's plans for obtaining collaboration and support from the public, private, and independent sectors in performing the project in order to expand its impact, the type of collaboration proposed, the likelihood that it will materialize during grant performance, and what role it will play in the overall project. (10 points)

H. Education/Outreach. Applicants will be evaluated based on the effectiveness of their education/outreach plans to disseminate project results including, but not limited to, whether the applicant has a demonstrated track record of outreach to inform citizens on environmental issues and the potential of the project for transferability and applicability to other places. (5 points)

OUTCOMES/OUTPUTS/EXPECTED RESULTS (from the Request for Proposals)

Expected Outcomes for the projects under this focus area may include, but are not limited to:
• Nearshore aquatic communities consist of healthy, self-sustaining plant and animal populations dominated by native species.
• Land use, recreation and economic activities are managed to ensure that nearshore aquatic, wetland and upland habitats will sustain the health and function of natural communities.
• The presence of bacteria, viruses, pathogens, nuisance growths of plants or animals, objectionable taste or odors, or other risks to human health are reduced to levels that do not impede human use and enjoyment of the nearshore areas.
• High quality bathing beach opportunities are maintained by reducing or eliminating impairments from bacterial, algal, and chemical contamination; effective monitoring for fecal indicator bacteria; effective modeling of environmental conditions to estimate recreational water quality, where appropriate; and timely communications to the public about beach health and daily swimming conditions.
• A significant reduction in soil erosion and the loading of sediments, nutrients, and pollutants into tributaries is achieved through greater implementation of practices that conserve soil and slow overland flow in agriculture, forestry, and urban areas.
• High quality, timely, and relevant information about the nearshore areas is readily available to assess progress and to inform enlightened stakeholder decision making.
• Understanding of the causes of nutrient-related nearshore biological impairments.

Expected Outputs for the projects under this focus area may include, but are not limited to:
• Compilation and mapping of the highest priority watersheds for implementation of targeted nonpoint source pollution control measures.
• Number of priority Great Lakes watersheds for which remediation, restoration and conservation actions will control erosion, reduce nutrient runoff from urban and agricultural sources, and improve habitat to protect nearshore aquatic resources.
• Establishment of a baseline for total suspended solids loadings from targeted tributaries.
• Percentage decrease in soluble phosphorus loading from 2008 levels in targeted tributaries.
• Reduction in the number of incidences of harmful algal blooms, avian botulism, and/or excessive *Cladophora* growth (from 2008 levels, 2007 for Lake Michigan).
• Establishment and implementation of elements of a comprehensive nearshore monitoring program, including a publicly-accessible reporting system, based on a suite of environmental indicators.
• Number and percentage of high priority5 Great Lakes beaches assessed using a standardized sanitary survey tool to identify sources of contamination.
• Number and percentage of Great Lakes beaches that will have begun to implement measures to control, manage or remediate pollution sources identified through the use of sanitary surveys.
• Percentage of beaches at which methods to improve the effectiveness of monitoring fecal indicator bacteria will be employed.
• Percentage of Great Lakes beaches at which forecast, nowcast, or predictive models will be used to improve the timeliness of decisions on beach postings to better protect public health.
• Increased percentage of agricultural lands in conservation and/or utilizing conservation tillage practices.

Expected Results from the projects under this program may include:
• Completion of sanitary surveys to identify potential sources of beach water contamination.
• Reduction in number of beach closures or advisories issued,
• Documentation of remediation measures taken and outcomes achieved which can be applied at other beaches,
• Development of other water quality management tools with the data collected, such as forecast models, at project beaches,
• Decrease in nuisance algal blooms and ambient water concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus in coastal areas,
• Reduction of pollution sources impacting Great Lakes beaches,
• Improved water quality at Great Lakes beaches due to reduction in pathogen indicator organisms, algal, and chemical contamination,
• Improved protection of public health at Great Lakes beaches,
• Implementation of a holistic watershed approach to beach management, supporting a more efficiently directed beach program,
• Increased coordination and collaboration among water and health departments,
• Increased knowledge of sources of pollution impacting Great Lakes beaches for better beach management decisions.

OTHER FACTORS THE SELECTION OFFICIAL CONSIDERED

Section V of the RFP states that, "In making the final funding decisions each selecting official may also consider program priorities, funding availability and appropriate balances of geographic and jurisdictional distribution of projects." [2]

[2] While the RFP did not specify every program priority, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan identifies the most significant ecosystem problems and the efforts to address them. Consequently, consideration of program priorities would reasonably include the likelihood that a project will support achievement of goals, objectives, and targets identified in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan.

Consideration of the appropriate balance of geographic and jurisdictional distribution of projects would reasonably include, among other items, the location of the applicant, where the project will be done, and the types of organizations having jurisdictional authority, such as States, counties, municipalities, tribes and tribal organizations.